

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed November 24, 2009, in which it was alleged that applicant's submission of August 21, 2009, did not provide a proper status identifier for each claim. In particular, it was alleged that the August 21, 2009, submission identified Claims 73 and 74 as "(New)" when they should have been marked as "(Previously presented)." While applicant respectfully disagrees, applicant submits herewith a replacement claims section with status identifiers as required by the Office. Specifically, Claims 73 and 74 are now identified as "(Previously presented)." The objection raised in Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment is believed to be overcome.

To briefly recap what has transpired, applicant submitted an amendment on March 3, 2009, in which Claims 73 and 74 were newly added. Thereafter, on July 21, 2009, the Office mailed an Office Action ("Response to Amendment") indicating that the amendment filed on March 3, 2009, was not fully responsive. It was alleged that applicant's March 3, 2009, amendment did not present specific arguments pointing out why the newly added claims (i.e., Claims 73 and 74) were patentable over the cited references. The Office Action acknowledged that applicant's March 3, 2009, amendment was a *bona fide* reply, so a one-month period was provided for applicant to submit a correction.

Applicant filed a Supplemental Amendment on August 21, 2009, within the one-month period of the Office Action. The remarks section indicated that the Supplemental Amendment was intended to replace the March 3, 2009, amendment. Accordingly, Claims 73 and 74 were again listed as "(New)." Claims 53-55, 57-59, and 63 were also indicated as "(Currently amended)."

The Office thereafter issued a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment on November 24, 2009, in which it was indicated that each claim of applicant's submission of August 21, 2009, had not been provided with the proper status identifier.

While applicant believes that the August 21, 2009, Supplemental Amendment was fully responsive, applicant has submitted herewith a replacement claims section in which Claims 73 and 74 are now identified as "(Previously presented)." Since Claims 53-55, 57-59, and 63 were newly amended in the Supplemental Amendment, they are still indicated herewith as "(Currently amended)."

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presented herewith have proper status identifiers and are patentable over the cited art for at least the reasons explained in applicant's August 21, 2009, submission. Applicant requests reconsideration of the claims and allowance of the application at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

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